

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT SELECTION

The selection of a qualified consultant for your project can prevent delays and excessive costs for development. Business development is an involved process that often requires a substantial amount of capital. Many business proposals require environmental permits. However, because the cost of an environmental consultant was not budgeted, many owners attempt to complete the environmental forms themselves. Using a competent, experienced consultant can ensure you:

- Complete the project
- Establish a relationship with MDEQ
- Minimize project down time
- Save time and money

An environmental consultant can manage your project and secure the necessary permits in a timely manner.

SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

Professional Reputation & Experience

- Would previous clients recommend them?
- Have they completed other projects in Mississippi?

- Do they understand Mississippi environmental regulations?
- Do they have a compliance history in Mississippi?

License & Registration

The environmental laws and regulations in the State of Mississippi require a majority of the applications submitted to be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer or Professional Geologist registered in Mississippi.

Project Manager Qualifications

The firm you select will assign a project manager for your proposal. Consider the following:

- How are his abilities best suited to your needs?
- What experience does he have in your type of business?
- How much environmental experience does he have?



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Meeting the Project Deadline

Meeting the deadlines you have established for design, development and implementation of your business is absolutely necessary.

- Does the firm have a history of meeting deadlines?
- Does the firm have enough staff for your project?

Communication

The ability to communicate with you, regulators and other people involved in the project must be a cornerstone of your consulting firm.

- Does the firm encourage your involvement?
- Will the firm meet with MDEQ on your behalf?
- Will the firm meet with other concerned parties to discuss the project?

Sub-Contractors

Many aspects of project development involve using sub-contractors to provide specific services for your business. Determine the following:

- Does the firm anticipate sub-contracting portions of the project?
- What control in the selection process will be given to you?
- Do the sub-contractors meet the required qualifications for the project?

Environmental Compliance

Once you have obtained your environmental permits, you must comply with the terms of those permits. Your consulting firm should be capable of understanding the permit conditions and helping you maintain compliance.

BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITIES

To ensure that your application is reviewed and decided upon quickly, be sure that your application is complete and submitted in a timely manner.

You should provide as much information as possible regarding your business proposal including:

- History of the proposed site
- Materials to be used by the business
- Compliance history

After Consultant Selection

Know your role in the project development and fulfill those responsibilities promptly so that your consultant may do the same.

- Be active in the project.

- Address any issues that arise immediately.
- Discuss alternatives throughout the development period.
- Provide requested additional information immediately.

CONSULTANT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality does not recommend or endorse the use of any one consultant or consulting firm for any business proposal. Many websites are available for consultant searches.

**For more information contact
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committed to
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Mississippi
Department
of ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Environmental Consultants:

Choose The Right One For You!

MDEQ strives to preserve and protect Mississippi's air, land, and water through fair and responsible regulation.



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May 2005